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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

FARMAKOVSKI, Dmitri Alexandrovich et al.

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24 August 1998 (24.08.98)

For:

METHOD OF ELECTROCHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF

AN ANALYTE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the Preliminary Amendment as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

A substitute set of claims is attached hereto. Please substitute the substitute set of claims (pages 89-96) for the claims presently of record (Amended Sheets pages 89-99).

The following is a marked up copy of the claim amendments to facilitate the Examiner's review.

Please amend claims and 26, before calculating the filing fee as follows:

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the charge label has the following properties:

- it carries a net charge at the pH of the electrolyte of part d); and (i)
- (ii) the magnitude of this charge changes in response to a change in the ionic strength of the electrolyte at constant pH;
- 4. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the charge label has a net charge at the pH of the electrolyte of greater than one electrostatic unit.

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